The LIBRARY *of* CONGRESS

Information Bulletin

Vol. 58, No. 8 August 1999

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS BICENTENNIAL

2000

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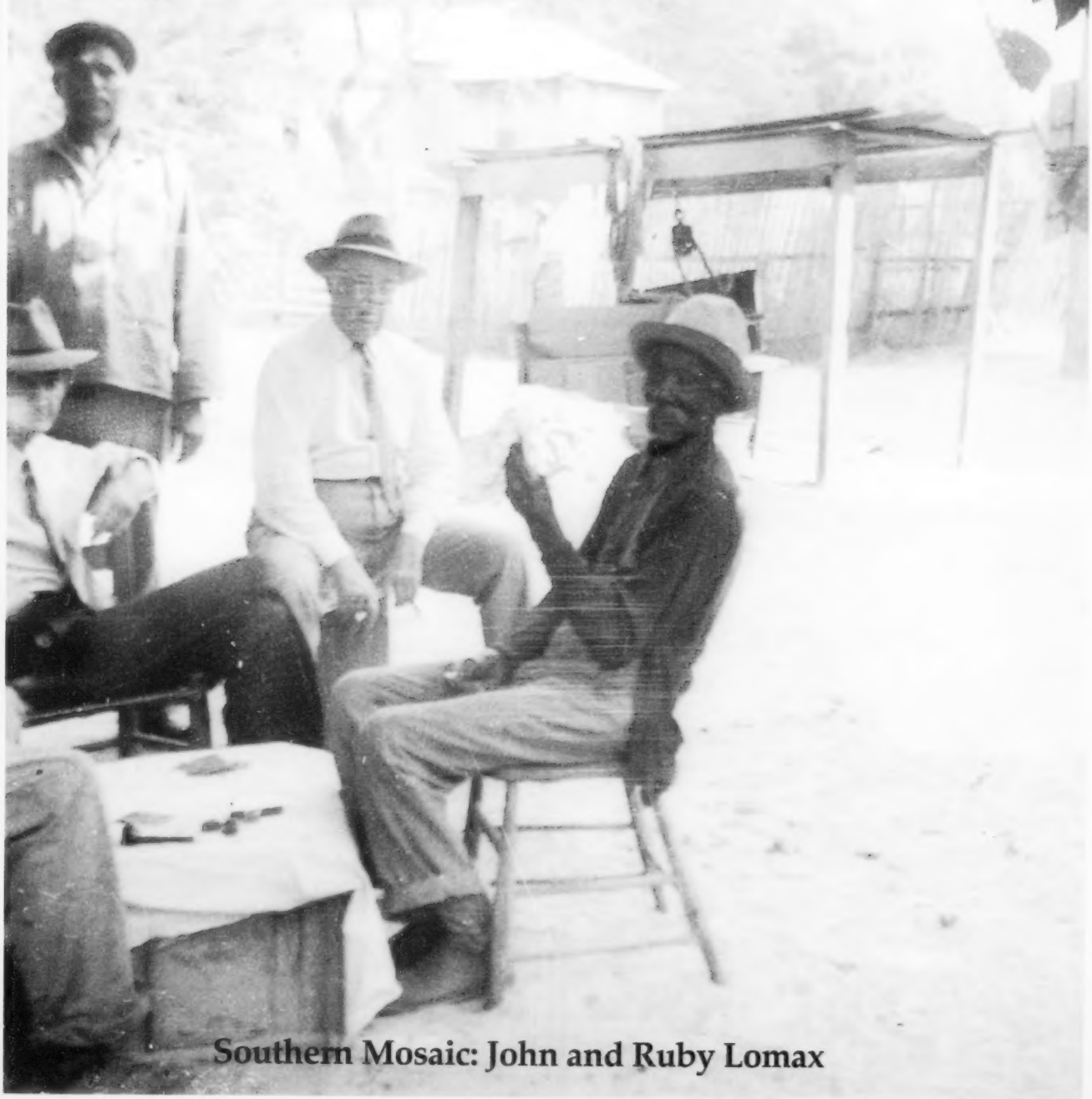

Southern Mosaic: John and Ruby Lomax

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JAMES H. BILLINGTON
Librarian of Congress

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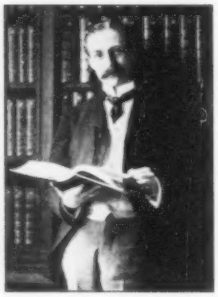

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On the Cover: Uncle Billy McCrea (right) with John A. Lomax (center) and friends, at Billy's home in Jasper, Texas, 1940. *Photo by Ruby T. Lomax from the John A. and Alan Lomax Collection*

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The *Library of Congress Information Bulletin* (ISSN 0041-7904) is issued monthly by the Public Affairs Office of the Library of Congress and distributed free of charge to publicly supported libraries and research institutions, academic libraries, learned societies and allied organizations in the United States. It is also available on the World Wide Web at www.loc.gov/today.

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GUY LAMOLINARA, Editor
JOHN H. SAYERS, Production and Design

Open World

Congress Sponsors Russian Leadership Program at Library

By GAIL FINEBERG

Sen. Ted Stevens (R-Alaska), who sponsored legislation authorizing the Library to spend $10 million for a pilot "Open World" Russian Leadership Program this summer, said on July 20 that he will seek congressional authorization to make the project permanent and spend between $15 million and $20 million next year to bring up to 3,000 Russians to the United States.

Sen. Stevens, chairman of the Joint Committee on the Library and of the Senate Appropriations Committee, said there is apparent congressional support to expand the program and make it permanent.

The announcement came as Sen. Stevens and Rep. Charles H. Taylor (R-N.C.), chairman of the House Legislative Branch Appropriations Subcommittee, and Dr. Billington announced the new program formally at a press conference in the Senate Appropriations chamber of the Capitol.

Dr. Billington, chairman of the Russian Leadership Program, participated in a similar news conference in Moscow on July 19, the day before, when he described the program as "one of the largest ever one-time visitation programs to bring current and future Russian leaders to the United States." In Moscow, Dr. Billington was joined by U.S. Ambassador to Russia James Collins and Dan E. Davidson of the American Councils for International Education.

The program will bring some 2,000 emerging political leaders from throughout the Russian Federation to the United States between now and Sept. 30 to experience family, cultural and political life in America. So far as possible, the Russians will be paired with their political equivalents in towns and cities throughout the United States so they can witness firsthand the operation of democratic institutions, the leaders explained. They noted that a number of members of Congress are making arrangements for the Russians to visit in their home districts as well as in Washington.

Yusef El-Amin

Sen. Stevens said that Dr. Billington's speech on the future of Russia persuaded Congress to support the program.

Dr. Billington said the program "is based on an act of the U.S. Congress and on the mutual desire of the people of the United States and Russia, and of their governments, for goodwill and better understanding between our two nations."

Also speaking at the Washington news conference was Yuri Ushakov, ambassador of the Russian Federation to the United States. He said he hopes the Russian Leadership Program will "lead to better relations between our two countries and our two peoples." He said he hopes for "maximum openness" during the Russians' visit.

"I am grateful to Dr. Billington and all the members of Congress who initiated and supported this program," Mr. Ushakov said.

Dr. Billington said that the invited Russian participants will include elected officials and active and emerging political and civic leaders from all jurisdictional levels — national, regional, state, local and municipal. "They will be as representative as possible of the breadth of the Russian Federation, geographically and demographically, from Smolensk in the west to Kamchatka in eastern Siberia," Dr. Billington said. Of the 583 invited so far, 562 have accepted invitations to come to the United States, Dr. Billington said. They represent 62 of the Russian Federation's 89 regions.

Sen. Stevens said a speech, "Six Reflections on the Russian Situation," that Dr. Billington gave this spring at the Aspen Institute persuaded several members of Congress to support the Russian visitation program. Both Sen. Stevens and Rep. Taylor praised the Librarian not only for his Library leadership but also his stature as a scholar and an expert in Russian government and political and cultural life.

Dr. Billington announced that Academician Dmitry Sergeevich Likhachev, his longtime friend and "world-renowned leading scholar of Russian literature and culture," has agreed to act as co-chairman of the program in Russia.

James W. Symington, who was a Missouri representative to the House from 1969 to 1977, is serving as executive director of the new program. Devoted to a life of public service, Mr. Symington served variously in the U.S. Foreign Service, the White House as deputy director for Food for Peace, the Justice Department as an administrative assistant to Robert Kennedy and in the State Department as chief of protocol during the Johnson administration. He is past president of the Association of Former Members of Congress and chairman of the American-Russian Cultural Cooperation Foundation.

Mr. Symington thanked Congress for its support and introduced representatives from numerous organizations that are finding American hosts for the visitors and corporate organizations that will support the effort.

Mr. Symington mentioned,

Yusef El-Amin

Dr. Billington briefs Sen. Stevens (standing, left) and others about the importance of the Russian Leadership Program in the Senate Appropriations chamber of the Capitol.

among others, the American Foreign Policy Council, the Appeal of Conscience Foundation, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, Friendship Force, Meridian International Center, the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs, Peace Links, Rotary International, Russia Initiative, the General Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church and the Russian Ministry Network of the Episcopal Church. He also mentioned the Council of Jewish Federations, the Orthodox Church in America, the Frank Russell Company of Takoma, Wash., and the U.S.-Russia Business Council.

In May, Congress included funds for the new program in the fiscal 1999 Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act (PL 106-31), which designated the Library as the lead agency for the pilot phase of the program this year. The purpose of the Russian Leadership Program, according to authorizing legislation, is "to enable emerging political leaders of Russia at all levels of government to gain significant firsthand exposure to the American free-market economic system and the operation of American democratic institutions through visits to governments and communities at comparable levels in the United States."

President Clinton signed the bill on May 21, and the Library launched the program on May 24.

By July 26, the first group of Russian visitors was expected to have left Moscow for the United States, followed by waves of 250 visitors every week thereafter, said Geraldine Otremba, who is serving as the program's full-time executive operating officer.

In the Aspen Institute address and a subsequent speech at the U.S. Institute of Peace, Dr. Billington, an authority on Russia's culture and political life, stressed the importance of reaching out to Russian leaders this summer. In the December 1999, elections will be held for the Russian Duma — the lower house consisting of some 450 regional representatives. In June 2000, the Russian presidential election is scheduled. Recalling the success of the Marshall Plan in expending only 1.5 percent of its resources to bring young, future leaders of Germany's federal democracy to the United States to witness the democratic process after World War II, Dr. Billington said the United States "should take this wonderful opportunity to invite the entire political elite of Russia to visit the United States."

In his May 18 address on the state of U.S.-Russian relations, the Librarian said that Russia is at a crossroads. Russians could either "revert to the historic pattern of producing an autocracy at the end of their time of troubles more absolute and centralized than the pre-existing one," he said, or "they may be able to solidify the formal structures of a democratic rule of law with substantial powers devolved to local governments, thereby legitimizing the path they have been following in an uncertain way up to this time."

Dr. Billington noted that Russia still spans more than half of the territory of both Europe and Asia and contains roughly one-fifth of the world's untapped natural energy resources and a vast arsenal of deliverable weapons of mass destruction. Accordingly, he said, "The No. 1 foreign policy concern for U.S. interests should be the future of the core country within the former Soviet empire: Russia. But Russia has been and is being treated largely as a secondary or even ... third-echelon problem."

Mr. Symington's vision for the program is to give the visiting Russians an opportunity to observe how the American people govern themselves and meet their own needs at every level of government, starting at the local level with school boards, city councils and boards of county supervisors; at the state level with legislatures and governors; and at the federal level.

Recalling former Speaker of the House Tip O'Neill's opinion that "all politics is local," Mr. Symington said he thinks it will help prospective Russian leaders to see how Americans operate their schools, repair their roads and provide water, power and other essential services to their communities.

"We want to show our Russian friends and visitors how accountable local government must be to the people, and how local government interfaces with state and federal governments," Mr. Symington said. "The folks coming here will take back with them better information about America's self-governance at all levels."

He emphasized that American hosts can learn from their Russian visitors too. "Russia has a history of local government in some areas. It will be interesting to learn how their local governance has unfolded after an era of rigid control," Mr. Symington said, adding it is his impression that, following the dissolution of the Soviet Union and the shift of control away from a centralized government, Russia's regions function with a greater degree of independence. "The people have had to take on greater responsibility for their own lives, to meet their local needs in their own ways," he said.

Local needs will affect national policies. Mr. Symington said the new lead-

Fall Literary Season

Poets Highlight Library Presentations

Three-time Poet Laureate Robert Pinsky will appear twice at the Library for the fall literary season; once when he opens the series Oct. 7 at 6:45 p.m. in the Mumford Room, and again on Nov. 10 when he will appear with three special poetry consultants named by Dr. Billington.

On Nov. 10, the Library of Congress will present "Sharing the Gifts: Readings by Poet Laureate Robert Pinsky; Special Consultants Rita Dove, Louise Glück and W.S. Merwin; and 1999 Witter Bynner Fellows David Gewanter, Campbell McGrath and Heather McHugh." The readings will take place at 8 p.m. in the Coolidge Auditorium on the ground floor of the Thomas Jefferson Building, 10 First St. S.E. Tickets are not required.

In preparation for the Bicentennial of the Library of Congress in 2000, Dr. Billington in April announced a "once-in-a-century" series of appointments for the Library's poetry program. Mr. Pinsky, the award-winning translator of *The Inferno of Dante* and a creative writing professor at Boston University, agreed to serve an unprecedented third term as Poet Laureate Consultant in Poetry. In addition, the Librarian has named three Special Consultants to assist with the Bicentennial poetry programs: former Poet Laureate Dove, Ms. Glück, and Mr. Merwin.

The three 1999 Witter Bynner Fellows (Mr. Gewanter, Ms. McGrath and Ms. McHugh) were named by Mr. Pinsky. The Witter Bynner Foundation is providing funding to the Library over a five-year period so that the incumbent Poet Laureate may choose two or more poets each year to receive a fellowship. These fellowships are used to support the writing of poetry. Only two things were asked of the fellows: that they organize a poetry reading in their local areas and that they participate in a poetry reading at the Library of Congress.

The readings were part of the Favorite Poem Project that Mr. Pinsky is spearheading as Poet Laureate. He is currently selecting a broad cross section of Americans reading their favorite poems aloud from the thousands of recordings that have been made across the country. As part of the Library's celebration of its 200th birthday, Mr. Pinsky will present 200 video and 1,000 audio tapes of these Favorite Poem readings to the Library. The presentation will take place during a symposium on the reading, performance and publication of poetry in the 19th and 20th centuries on April 3-4, 2000. These readings will augment the existing Archive of Recorded Poetry and Literature, which has recordings of 2,000 poets and authors reading their work. Among them are Robert Penn Warren, Robert Frost, Maxine Kumin and Gwendolyn Brooks. The Favorite Poem tapes of everyday people reading their favorite poems will be one of the Library's Bicentennial birthday "Gifts to the Nation." The Library will be 200 on April 24, 2000.

The Poetry and Literature Center, which administers the poetry series is the home of the Poet Laureate Consultant in Poetry, a position that has existed since 1936, when the late philanthropist Archer M. Huntington endowed the Chair of Poetry at the Library of Congress. Archibald MacLeish, who was Librarian from 1939 to 1944, determined the Consultant in Poetry should be an annual appointment. Since then, many of the nation's most eminent poets have served as Consultant in Poetry to the Library of Congress and, after the passage of Public Law 99-194 in 1985, as Poet Laureate Consultant in Poetry.

Interpreting services (American Sign Language, Contact Signing, Oral and/or Tactile) will be provided if requested five business days in advance of the reading. Call (202) 707-6362 TTY and voice to make a specific request. For other ADA accommodations, contact the Disability Employment office at (202) 707-9948 TTY and (202) 707-7544 voice. ◆

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ers of Russia will have "huge decisions to make," such as how to set environmental policies that will balance local and regional needs with national and international interests.

Alluding to Russia's post-authoritarian decline in its standard of living and the decentralization of its economic institutions, Mr. Symington said, "Their resources are so slender and limited that it is difficult for them to put into place a happy, growing political and economic life. The Russian people have had very tight belts during the past decade or so; we have to respect the fact they have to make these decisions in an environment of shortage."

Mr. Symington said he is confident that Americans participating in the program will avoid expressing their democratic views in an overbearing, pedantic way to their Russian guests. "We cannot expect them to replicate our experience, but we can improve their understanding of our system and be open to learning about theirs," he said.

Mr. Symington said that Americans and Russians must sit down with one another as friends to rediscover the affinities they have as people, "in order to remove any impression that the United States has any agenda that is inimical to the security of the Russian nation."

Dr. Billington and Mr. Symington both said the congressional decision to reach out to prospective Russian leaders at all levels of responsibility comes at a critical time — (1) before national elections in December and next spring, and (2) after NATO's recent bombing of Serbian Yugoslavia, which has angered many Russians, who identify culturally with the Serbs.

Mr. Symington noted that polls indicated that Russian enthusiasm for the United States had begun to wane, even before NATO's campaign: "A few years ago, when Russia was fresh out of communist gridlock, there were warm feelings for the United States. But mistakes were made in trying to jump-start the economy, followed by misunderstandings regarding the NATO mission in the Balkans."

He added: "We hope the Russian visitors will recognize, at the very least, that public service is viewed in this country as an opportunity to improve the lives of ordinary people."

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Bicentennial Background

The Library of Congress and the Library Community

By JOHN Y. COLE

In his remarks on June 26 in New Orleans during the Opening General Session of the American Library Association's Annual Conference (see LC *Information Bulletin*, July 1999), Dr. Billington emphasized how the Library's Bicentennial commemoration, through its theme "Libraries, Creativity, Liberty" was a celebration of all libraries. The Library will be 200 on April 24, 2000 (**www.loc.gov/bicentennial**).

Today, service to other libraries is a vital Library of Congress function. Many people do not realize, however, that the Library did not become directly involved with the American library movement until the beginning of its second century, during the early years of the administration of Librarian of Congress Herbert Putnam (1899-1939).

Librarian Ainsworth Rand Spofford, who built the Library into a national institution between 1864 and 1897, had neither the time nor the inclination to pay much attention to other libraries. He was too busy building the Americana collections and obtaining a separate library building. An old-fashioned book man, he also had mixed feelings about the emerging library "profession," which emphasized library techniques and issues related to management and organization. When the American Library Association was created in 1876, he agreed to serve as an officer but tried to avoid attending the organizational meeting "because I have always entertained insuperable objections to figuring in conventions (usually mere wordy outlets for impracticables and pretenders.)"

Much has changed since then.

All the Librarians of Congress since Herbert Putnam have viewed the library community as a key Library of Congress constituency. The connections were especially close during the administrations of Librarians of Congress Luther H. Evans (1945-1953) and L. Quincy Mumford (1954-1974.) Since the 1960s, when its international activities expanded dramatically, the Library has become increasingly involved with libraries and librarianship around the world.

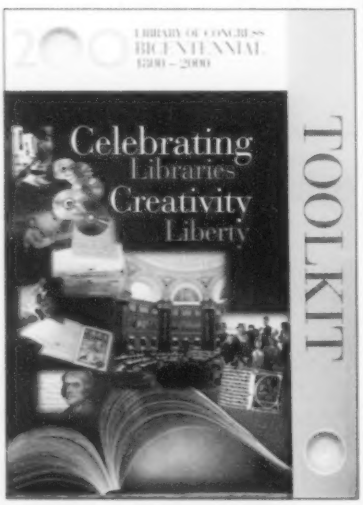
At the American Library Association's Annual Conference in New Orleans, Dr. Billington talks with retired Gen. Colin Powell following their presentations at the opening session. Dr. Billington spent two days at the conference, meeting with librarians and promoting the Library's Bicentennial.

Libraries in the Bicentennial Commemoration

Recognizing the need for sustaining solid relationships with the library community, the Bicentennial Steering Committee asked various library groups for advice on how best to involve libraries in the commemoration. Seven leaders from different segments of the American library community, for example, offered their suggestions in San Francisco during a program at the annual conference of the American Library Association (ALA). Forums also were held with other library groups, including federal, research, state and urban library associations. The result was the adoption of the "Libraries, Creativity, Liberty" Bicentennial theme. The Steering Committee felt that this broad theme accurately encompassed the Library of Congress's key role in promoting creativity in the preservation, organization and dissemination of much of the nation's recorded knowledge; and the Library's important role — in the Jeffersonian sense — of connecting knowledge and information to the responsibilities of citizenship in a democracy.

Two key library projects have been the development of a joint Library of Congress-ALA 12-page Tip Sheet for promoting libraries and building partnerships and a Library of Congress Toolkit for libraries. Both were distributed at the ALA annual conference in New Orleans and are available without charge from the Library of Congress by calling (800) 707-7145 or (202) 707-2000 or by e-mail: bicentennial@loc.gov. The Toolkit includes a colorful "Why Do You Love Libraries?" poster, a "Celebrating America's Libraries" history fact sheet, a "What the Library of Congress Does for You" fact sheet, a stand-up guide to the Library of Congress's American Memory collections and sign up sheets for several Bicentennial-related projects.

Major Library of Congress Bicentennial projects involving libraries include "Beyond Words: Celebrating America's Libraries," a national photo contest sponsored by ALA and the Library of



Congress (see LC *Information Bulletin*, July 1999); "John Bull and Uncle Sam: Four Centuries of British-American Relations," a joint exhibition with the British Library that will open at the Library of Congress on Nov. 16, 1999; "National Libraries of the World: Interpreting the Past, Shaping the Future," a symposium at the Library of Congress on Oct. 23-27, 2000; and a symposium on library preservation and security on Oct. 30-31, 2000.

Defining Moments

From Nov. 16 to Dec. 7, 1896, on the eve of the Library of Congress's move from the U.S. Capitol building to its own separate structure (today's Jefferson Building), the U.S. Congress held hearings about the Library's "condition" and future. Several professional librarians testified, some of them representing ALA. Witnesses included Melvil Dewey, then director of the New York State Library, and Herbert Putnam, then the head of the Boston Public Library. The hearings brought forth a richly detailed description of the Library's history and operations from Librarian of Congress Spofford, whose testimony fills 108 printed pages. Dewey and Putnam, representing the new library profession, testified about the desirable functions of an American national library. Both men carefully avoided direct criticism of Spofford, but nonetheless their view of the proper functions of a national library clearly differed from those of the Librarian of Congress.

Putnam wholeheartedly endorsed Dewey's description of the desirable role of a national library as "a center to which the libraries of the whole country can turn for inspiration, guidance and practical help, which can be rendered so economically and efficiently in no other possible way." Centralized cataloging, interlibrary loan, a national reference and bibliographic center, a national union catalog and a center for the international exchange of research materials were among the needed functions described by both men.

On June 30, 1897, President McKinley nominated a former journalist and diplomat, John Russell Young, to be the new Librarian of Congress. When he took office on July 1, Young named the 72-year old Spofford as chief assistant librarian. Young died in office on Jan. 17, 1899, and after much political maneuvering and several false starts, President McKinley nominated the ALA-backed candidate, Boston librarian Herbert Putnam, to be Librarian of Congress.

Two years later, Putnam was ready to add American libraries to the list of Library of Congress constituencies. During the 1901 ALA annual conference, in a talk titled "What May Be Done for Libraries by the Nation," he declared, "If there is any way in which our National Library may 'reach out' from Washington, it should reach out." By the end of the year, he had initiated a new classification system and published its first classification schedule, inaugurated the sale of Library of Congress printed cards to other libraries and established an interlibrary loan system. Additional services to libraries soon followed.

The appointment and administration of Herbert Putnam firmly linked the policies of the Library of Congress with the broader interests of American librarianship, particularly as those interests were expressed by the American Library Association. ◆

Frances Benjamin Johnston

The Library of Congress began serving other libraries during the administration of Librarian of Congress Herbert Putnam.

John Cole is co-chair of the Library's Bicentennial Steering Committee and director of the Center for the Book.

Russia
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Mr. Symington echoed the Librarian's belief that the United States and Russia should forge an alliance for peace. "Since the devolution of republics from Russia, Russia has emerged intact, with a great deal of remaining diversity. I have always felt Russia and the United States should work together in the interest of the world," Mr. Symington said. "As we enter the 21st century, we have a fresh chance for world peace that can begin with a solid relationship with Russia."

Although he had planned "a more serene summer than Jim Billington had in mind for me," Mr. Symington said he could not resist the Librarian's invitation to help with this project, which fit with an idea Mr. Symington had for the American-Russian Cultural Cooperation Foundation three years ago, of inviting "the new meritocracy of Russia" to replicate a U.S. visit in 1871 that the Grand Duke Alexis, the fourth son of Alexander II, made in response to an invitation from President Ulysses S. Grant. The Grand Duke visited 20 cities. In Boston, he was treated to a dinner with Henry Wadsworth Longfellow and Oliver Wendell Holmes. He visited farms and industrial Midwestern cities, such as Cleveland and Chicago, and he went all the way to South Dakota, where he hunted buffalo with Generals Custer and Sheridan and Buffalo Bill Cody.

Mr. Symington said the Russian government was so enthusiastic about his idea for the cultural exchange that, instead of giving U.S. tours for Russians, his foundation found itself in the position of sponsoring a traveling exhibition of Romanov treasures to five U.S. cities. "That was fine, but I felt somewhat unfulfilled with the change of focus," Mr. Symington recalled. "So, when Jim said he had cultivated this miraculous congressional interest in a Russian Leadership Program and asked me if I would help, I said, 'Sure.'" ◆

Ms. Fineberg is editor of the Library's staff newspaper, The Gazette.

'Frontiers of the Mind'

Scholars Survey the Present and Assay the Future

Following is the second of two articles covering events from the Library's first Bicentennial symposium. Part 1 (see LC Information Bulletin, *July 1999) reported on the first day of the conference, June 15; this article reports on the June 16 and June 17 proceedings. The symposium was made possible through the generosity of the American Academy of Achievement and the Heinz Foundation.*

BY GUY LAMOLINARA AND CRAIG D'OOGE

The "Frontiers of the Mind in the 21st Century" symposium offered a program no less ambitious on days 2 and 3, as more disciplines were discussed in past and present terms.

Chair George Rupp, president of Columbia University, said, "There are wonderful baskets of knowledge" to be discussed June 16, "and there are connections between them: "Religion and the State," "Canonical Texts" and "Moral Philosophy."

Cardinal Francis George

Cardinal Francis George, archbishop of Chicago, provided a "faith-based critique of modernity," during which time freedom has become "divorced" from truth. According to Cardinal George, the "fruits of this great divorce" in America are "the millions of abortions annually, the divorce of human reproduction from the embrace of human love, the increased application of the death penalty, the practice of euthanasia, the conviction that the hopelessly handicapped are better off dead, the seemingly indiscriminate and sometimes disproportionate use of the military, the gun violence in the streets of our cities and the corridors of our schools. ... what the pope has called 'the culture of death.'"

Yet, it should not be assumed that the Roman Catholic Church advocates creation of a theocracy. "Nothing could be further from the truth," the cardinal said. The church opposes "coerced" faith and does not seek to grasp the reins of political power. Rather, the church "seeks to create a culture."

Mohammed Arkoun from the University of Paris gave a spirited presentation of the need to reconceptualize the relationships between Islam and the West, building upon the intellectual and liberating traditions of Islamic thought rather than solely upon the recent "fundamentalist" assertions of Islamic polities.

Michael Fishbane

Michael Fishbane of the University of Chicago explored the layers of historical and textual criticism of the Bible developed during the 20th century in his discussion of canonical texts. "For as the purpose of study shifted from the resources of sacred Scripture to sponsor religious life and thought to its role as a source of historical information and traces of an ancient polity, the self was cut loose from a canonical core and cast upon new paths."

Mary Douglas of the University of London extended the subtle discussion inaugurated by Mr. Fishbane to other kinds of textual canons. She mirrored his hope that, following the dogmatisms of deconstruction, a more balanced sense of the relationships between a text, with all its historical layerings, and the reader, who brings to it a number of contemporary assumptions, could be achieved.

John Noonan

"Moral Philosophy" was broached by John T. Noonan Jr. of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. According to Mr. Noonan, "Morals are expressed at different levels. There are those articulated by advanced moralists, there are those embodied in law on the books and those actually enforced by the legal system, and there are those dispensed by the media and those popularly practiced. ...

"Decisions of appellate courts often reflect the ideals generally enough accepted to be enforced and in some cases to be practiced. They serve me here as indicators of the measures in use, as benchmarks of the changes."

In her commentary, Christine Korsgaard of Harvard University discussed the dead end into which the linguistic approaches of the midcentury had taken moral philosophy. She then discussed some of the newer approaches of the past 20 years, which have led to a vigorous revival of moral concerns as a central focus of philosophy.

Greg Pio

Marcia McNutt

The afternoon session's chair, Dennis O'Connor of the Smithsonian Institution, dispensed with any remarks and moved directly to an introduction of Marcia K. McNutt of the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute.

She began with an overview of what was known about Earth in 1900, and then stated:

"What it is even more impressive to reflect on is how much of what is now established in Earth sciences was not known at the dawn of the 20th century." For example, "It was thought that mountains rose and seas subsided in response to vertical forces of unspecified internal origin that reshaped the planet." It was also thought that the world was only 25 million years old, "despite geological evidence to the contrary."

Frank Press, former director of the National Academy of Sciences, laid out in his commentary the governmental policies that made possible the tremendous advances in scientific understanding outlined by Ms. McNutt.

Wallace S. Broecker of Columbia University discussed the connection between the pattern of ocean circulation and climate. Although in 1906 it was proposed that changes in ocean circulation "went hand-in-hand with

... climate cycles ... it was not until 80 years had passed that this idea received full recognition."

"Clear evidence exists that circulation changes did accompany and perhaps even trigger the abrupt climate changes that punctuated the last period of glaciation."

His dire prediction: "Were greenhouse gases to continue upward along their business-as-usual course, late in the next century yet another reorganization of the ocean's circulation system might be triggered."

Bert Bolin of the Research Institute in Stockholm placed the climate and current circulation patterns into the longer historical alternations of ice ages and deglaciations, confirming the accelerating trends apparent at the end of this century.

A no less gloomy outlook was proffered by Peter H. Raven of the Missouri Botanical Garden, who noted that the world's population has more than tripled in this century. With that increase, "the level of consumption in the industrialized world has risen to heights undreamed of just a few decades ago."

He also told how humans are using approximately 45 percent of "the total net biological productivity on land and using more than half of the available fresh water."

The 10 billion people who will be on the planet by 2050, up from the current 6 billion, "will clearly have an increasingly difficult time" maintaining the current standards of living, much less "achieving the lofty goals that our historical progress seems to have made available to us."

Robert Watson of the World Bank Group spoke from his experience in many parts of the developing world about the great difficulties of sustaining agricultural lands and water use unless some fundamental social and economic patterns could be modified through the participation of many millions of people.

Mr. Gifford chaired the afternoon's final session, in which he predicted "the metaphors of science presented in the previous sessions would be reflected in the discussions of culture," specifically semiotics, music and poetry.

Vyacheslav V. Ivanov of the University of California at Los Angeles pointed to the "shift from the logographic representation of words to the later alphabetic principle that makes it possible to perform successive operations not only on letters but also on natural numbers and other sequences of discrete symbols" as being one of the major developments in the history of semiotics.

He then compared the study of natural sciences and semiotics by using a simple example: Just as in an alphabetic system, where sentences contain words such as nouns, the elements contain components such as atoms. Thus, "in a way, an important part of natural science can be interpreted as similar to cryptographic work."

Pat Fisher

Vyacheslav Ivanov

Music, another discipline concerned with the interpretation of symbols — in this case, notes — was the topic of Charles Rosen, a music historian and concert pianist, who expressed dismay with the state of musical performance today: too few concerts are held, especially in small towns. He did note, however, that more people today are able to hear music than ever before. "The public performance of music is a recent phenomenon," whereby people purchase tickets to hear music in a public venue. Most of the music of the 19th century and before was intended for "private performance," he said; that is, it was performed upon request for a specific purpose.

One of the most lively discussions of the conference involved the study of music during the 20th century. Was the term "ethnomusicology," originally coined because "musicology" was limited to the study of European music, necessary any longer? Has the point not been reached where music from all parts of the globe interpenetrated, so that "musicology" should be extended to the music of the world? Could this be done without comparable historical and critical materials, such as had been available for scholarship on European music? Mr. Rosen discussed these issues with Kwabena Nketia from the University of Ghana.

Pat Fisher

The Library's Coolidge Auditorium was the venue for the "Frontiers of the Mind" symposium, June 15-17.

N. Alicia Byers

Robert Pinsky

The day's final presenter was Poet Laureate Robert Pinsky, whose Bicentennial project, Favorite Poem, is recording citizens across the country reading their favorite poems. His remarks supported his belief that poems are most poignant when they are read aloud.

"The medium of [poetry] is the body of the audience and the breath of the poem is whoever reads it."

It is this "vocality" of poetry that gives it its strength, Mr. Pinsky emphasized, before reading three of his favorite poems.

The final day's discussion ranged from economics to a session on international relations and foreign policy.

Michael Woodford's views on the greatest achievements in economics of the last hundred years can be neatly summarized in three words: John Maynard Keynes. With the publication of Keynes's *General Theory* in 1936, the field of macroeconomics was born, as distinguished from the field of microeconomics, which was already well-established by the turn of the century. Mr. Woodford saw Keynes's contribution primarily as one of providing a methodology that made possible the creation of quantitative econometric models by mid-century. The models, in turn, influenced government policies and proved to be of practical value in

designing economic instruments and institutions such as the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank.

Mr. Woodford acknowledged that the notion that there has been progress at all in the field of economics might itself be controversial, particularly when its "shortcomings" were so dramatically highlighted by runaway inflation in the 1960s and 1970s. But he defended Keynes against the charge that he was responsible for this state of affairs, calling such notions as bigger deficits are better "vulgarizations" of Keynesian theory that were spread by politicians, not economists.

At any rate, by the '70s economists learned that the rate of inflation that people have come to expect is related to the inflation they get and that it is not enough merely to keep output from overshooting potential. Economics, Mr. Woodford explained, was more complicated than rocket science because the direction of a missile does not depend on the missile's conjectures about what is being done to it.

Considerations such as this led to a type of "new practical economics" in the mid- to late 1970s that was one of three major critical assaults upon Keynesian economics this century, as identified by Mr. Woodford. These assaults, in his view, did not overthrow the basis for mainstream economic theory so much as create a new synthesis that restored elements of Keynesian theory that had been "truncated." The other two assaults were the monetarism of the '60s and '70s along with something called "real business cycle theory" in the 1980s that allowed economists to model potential output along with deviation from potential.

The field was left "a lot healthier" as a result, according to Mr. Woodford, giving the field a stronger conceptual framework that will help keep government policy on a safe course, away from disasters such as a depression or hyperinflation.

Looking to the future, Mr. Woodford identified three areas he would like to see progress in his field.

The first is a return to work on structural econometric models that are now relatively "unfashionable" because of their failure in the 1960s to fulfill what he called "extravagant" hopes that were made for them.

The second is to apply recent developments in theory to the task of integrating macroeconomics into fields that have been reserved for microeconomic theory such as labor, development and finance.

Finally, Mr. Woodford hoped for a better understanding of "expectation formation" in the coming century, based on the supposition that as the speed of information increases, society can model expectations based on the premise that, more often than not, people generally understand their environment correctly.

In his response, Robert Solow of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology sought to explain why the field of macroeconomics is so controversial. Of the three reasons he identified, he called "ideology" the least important, saying that the academic system generally has worked to keep ideology from masquerading as science. Far more important, Mr. Solow suggested, was the "reality" that economic studies constantly change. Economic structures are not immutable, but change with the times. The concept of "rational expectations" is an attempt to get around this fact. The final reason economics is controversial is related to the second. Unlike other fields, say astronomy, economics does not have a long run of stationary conditions to study.

Mr. Solow basically agreed with Mr. Woodford, but reserved a few differences for himself. Economists, for example, tend to identify themselves as either Keynesian or not and this acceptance or rejection of "the whole package" stifles innovation. Keynes's contribution was a more dynamic view of the economy; he did not see it as necessarily moving toward equilibrium after an initial disturbance. Keynes thought that a process might move away from equilibrium and never get back, Mr. Solow said.

John Sheretz

Neil Smelser

Neil Smelser of the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences took on sociology next, listing four things that were particular to the field:

- the way sociology tends to fuse with each person's perception, based on his or her own circumstances;
- its "multiparadigmatic" character;
- its permeability, borrowing and lending from other disciplines "shamelessly"; and
- its continual "quest for itself" as a discipline.

He then listed three trends in sociology this century, beginning with a "solid accumulation" of knowledge based on empirical fact, followed by internal differentiation of the field often centered around changing social problems and, finally, certain historical "pulsations" in the field as it responded to the growth of other fields, important books, the "great undoing" of the 1960s, and the collapse of Marxist sociology since that time.

For the future, Mr. Smelser sketched out five areas that he termed both predictions and needs: new theories and research on human bonding in a modern world of "hypermobility," expanded communications and other factors; a new synthesis of knowledge about human diversity in light of recent research in other fields such as psychology, linguistics or genetics; new knowledge about inequality in light of changes in occupational structures and the gender revolution in the workplace; new directions in the macro social sciences due to internationalization of the world and the change from the nation-state as the fundamental unit of research; and a look at the impact of notions of sustainability in relation to the drive for economic prosperity.

Daniel Bell

Daniel Bell of Harvard University responded by describing his views on how the social structure has changed in the past 200 years, focusing on three questions: How was it that economics detached itself from the lives of people? Why did capitalism arise in the West and not elsewhere? and How does one conceptualize these changes?

For the future, Mr. Bell said there would be continued political fragmentation, not just as a result of the fall of communism, but also from newly emerging political voices in places such as Scotland and Wales. At the same time, he also noted a kind of retreat into "primordial identity" as well as a mismatch of scale in the components of modern society that can lead to trouble.

Ward Goodenough

Ward Goodenough of the University of Pennsylvania spoke next on anthropology, which he described as the study of the "whole human story — who we are and how we got that way." As such, anthropology is less of a social science and more like a natural science, especially when paired with the explosion of our understanding of human evolution as the result of technical innovations in the field of archaeology, for example.

At the beginning of this century, there was no dating system, but carbon-14 dating led to a revolution in anthropology the same way that the electron microscope made possible the field of molecular biology.

He called for a greater attention toward the description, cataloging and study of basic human activities, for these are the arenas in which the individual develops language and thinking.

Pat Fisher

Laura Nader

Laura Nader of the University of California at Berkeley took issue with Mr. Goodenough's emphasis on the importance of technology in driving changes in the field, which she saw as evolving through a broadening of perspectives, particularly centered around the study of power relationships and unlocking biases within the profession.

"The world is messier than we thought," she said, "and it can only be made coherent if we leave out power."

With reference to many different anthropological studies, from Bolivian tin mines to the study of menopause in Japan, Ms. Nader described how the epistemology of anthropology has expanded to include many different areas of human behavior, even to the point of asking whether Western ways of knowing can provide humans with the truth. For the 21st century she sees a greater emphasis on synthesis, as people who used to be merely "informants" become "collaborators."

In the afternoon, Manuel Castells of the University of California at Berkeley gave a summary of the paper he had prepared for a conference on the culture of cities. As more and more people live in metropolitan areas, Mr. Castells noted the paradox of cities fading away as cultural forces, largely because of mass communication and globalization.

Pat Fisher

Director of Scholarly Programs Prosser Gifford, Sen. Paul Sarbanes, former Rep. Lee Hamilton, Sen. Richard Lugar and Dr. Billington

"Can we enter an urban age without cities?" he asked. Citing his own research, Mr. Castells said that if information is power, then cities become magnets. Yet at the same time the new economic architecture is made up not of places but of networks that lead to decentralization. "Edge cities," such as the Bay Area of San Francisco are becoming more important, and often include rural areas that function as one market. This can lead to a mismatch in political control, as local jurisdictions strain to cope with unfamiliar larger issues. At the same time, spatial segregation between rich and poor is at an all time high, as all over the world, from Bogota to Cairo, gated communities are springing up, further weakening cities as systems of social communication.

Two professors from Carnegie Mellon University next discussed the history and future of computers. Raj Reddy started by reminding the audience that 100 years ago, a "computer" meant a person who performed laborious hand calculations. He then led the audience through a quick history of the computer, from the theoretical model first proposed in the 1930s, to the construction of the machine that cracked the German "Enigma" code in World War II, to the development of today's World Wide Web, first predicted by Franklin Roosevelt's science adviser 50 years ago. Mr. Reddy then showed a chart that extrapolated an exponential growth in computing power in the near future.

"By the year 2000, we will see a 'giga PC'," he said, "capable of performing 1 billion operations per second, with a billion bits of memory for under $2,000."

By 2016, he predicted a "tera PC," capable of 1 trillion operations per second, with a "peta PC" available by 2030 capable of 1,000 trillion operations per second.

"How will all this available computer power change the way we live and work?" Mr. Reddy asked.

Many things will stay the same, but there will be profound changes in the way we learn, work and obtain health care. By 2010 he predicted that 4 terabytes of disk memory will be available for about $50. This would enable storage of several million books as well as a lifetime of one's favorite music and movies.

All aspects of commerce will change as result of this, Mr. Reddy said. Customers will be able to buy things at any time, anywhere. Companies will be forced to compete globally and make fast adjustments to marketing strategies. Learning will be transformed, as each person will be able to use a computer in a way that best serves his or her individual learning style, with "translating telephones" conquering language barriers and things such as voice e-mail and video e-mail erasing the distinction between computer "haves" and "have-nots."

Michael Shamos then got up and declared books obsolete and inefficient "cocoons for carrying information." Using his laptop computer to race through the numbers with a clearly uncomfortable audience, Mr. Shamos put forth his own "modest proposal" to eliminate books altogether for a one-time cost of about $1 billion, as compared to the current $6 billion per year it costs to house them. This sparked a lively discussion among the panelists about the social, political and economic consequences of such an action.

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Juneteenth

Ralph Ellison Editor Speaks at Library

By YVONNE FRENCH

"'There've been a heap of Juneteenths gone by and there'll be a heap more before we're free.' That's what [Ralph] Ellison was saying to every one of us."

So said his literary executor, John F. Callahan, on June 30 during the second of two consecutive standing-room-only Library of Congress lectures about Ralph Ellison and his two novels, *Invisible Man* and *Juneteenth*, whose main character, the Rev. Alonzo Hickman, utters the above words.

Mr. Callahan painstakingly assembled Ellison's unfinished novel, Juneteenth, using the Ellison papers in the Library's Manuscript Division. He discussed the long-awaited novel at the second of two back-to-back literary evenings. The first, a June 29 Bradley Lecture, was about Ellison's first novel *Invisible Man*. The second, a June 30 Books and Beyond Lecture, was about Ellison's posthumous novel, *Juneteenth*, edited by Mr. Callahan and published June 19 by Random House.

The title refers to June 19, 1865, when Union troops arrived in Galveston, Texas, to tell slaves there that they were free — some 2½ years after President Lincoln had issued the Emancipation Proclamation. The event became known as Juneteenth and has been celebrated by many African Americans ever since.

Ellison (1914-1994) had been to several Juneteenth celebrations, or "rambles," when he was growing up in the Midwest, wrote Mr. Callahan in the introduction to the book. "The delay, of course, is symbolic acknowledgment that liberation is the never-ending task of self, group and nation, and that, to endure, liberation must be self-achieved and self-achieving," he wrote. "In his novel ... Ellison speaks of false as well as true liberation and of the courage required to tell the difference."

Ellison published his first novel, *Invisible Man*, in 1952. It won the American Book Award and today it is considered one of the most significant American novels since World War II. It is a powerful classic that, according to Mr. Callahan, "compels others to see their reality through the prism of African American experience."

N. Alicia Byers

John Callahan

Mr. Callahan used the notes, typescripts, computer printouts and disks that Ellison bequeathed to the Library to prepare the Bradley lecture, which will also be published in pamphlet form.

The Bradley Lecture series, managed by the Office of Scholarly Programs, is made possible by a grant from the Lynde and Harry Bradley Foundation of Milwaukee to bring eminent scholars to the Library to discuss texts of great historical importance to social and political thought.

"The papers and notes made the composition of the novel visible. It was a seven-year process," said Mr. Callahan. It is a mistake to think it was coherent in his mind when his fingers typed that first sentence" 'I am an invisible man.'

He continued: "The metaphor for invisibility is apt for African Americans, Americans and humans in the last two-thirds of the 20th century. ... The character, because of his irreducible individuality, would become an unmistakable type of a black American and no less, no less," he emphasized, "an American."

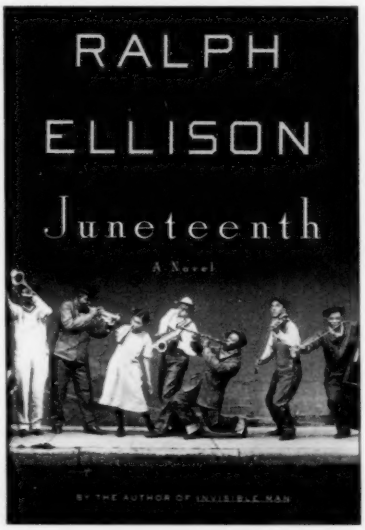
In his Library research, Mr. Callahan discovered two different endings to *Invisible Man* in the Ellison papers. One omits the famous final phrase 'Who knows, but that, on the lower frequencies, I speak for you?'

"Because the manuscripts are open to scholars, readers can marvel over the genesis of the improvisation that allowed him to take the leap from the good and promising novel to a great one," said Mr. Callahan.

Mr. Callahan also relied heavily upon the Ellison papers in the Library's Manuscript Division to edit *Juneteenth* down from more than 2,000 manuscript pages to 350, he told the Books and Beyond audience.

The Books & Beyond series, sponsored by the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress, features authors of recent books that are related to the Library's collections or programs.

Also speaking at the Books and Beyond lecture was Alice Birney of the Manuscript Division. She said that as a literary manuscript specialist she has worked with many biographers, editors and other scholars to further their research and produce books, essays, articles and broadcasts.



"But never [have I worked on] anything as exciting as the emergence from out of reams of chaotic scribbled papers, of the long-awaited second novel of Ralph Ellison," said Ms. Birney. Archivists "sorted hundreds of cartons of papers into seven intellectually coherent series, presently housed in 76 acid-free boxes and 32 flat containers. They spent more than six months arranging the multiple, overlapping, handwritten and typed episodes and drafts" of *Juneteenth,* Ms. Birney said. "Because he never settled on a final title, in the register we had to call it "'The Hickman Novel.'"

Mr. Callahan read three powerful passages from the novel, which is about a race-baiting Northern white senator (Bliss/Adam Sunraider) who was raised by a rural Southern black minister and former jazz musician (Rev. Hickman) and renounces him and his people. He is later shot on the floor of the Senate as he makes a speech.

Mr. Callahan described the novel as a jazz narrative. "To get fully conversant with it you have to keep to the rhythm, as Hickman tells Bliss, and have a sense of what jazz moments are all about." Ellison himself had originally trained as a musician.

Wrote Mr. Callahan in the introduction: "*Juneteenth* draws from uniquely African American (and American) tributaries: sermons, folktales, the blues ... the swing and velocity of jazz. Through its pages flow the influences of literary antecedents and ancestors, among them Twain and Faulkner ... Above all, perhaps, in this novel Ellison converses with Faulkner."

One lecture-goer said to Mr. Callahan, in reference to the condensed *Juneteenth* and the planned publication by Random House of a more extensive scholarly edition, "Ellison was constructing a marvelous puzzle. I can't wait to read the actual papers."

When Mr. Callahan was not at work in the Manuscript Division in Washington, he was in Portland, Ore., where he is a humanities professor at Lewis and Clark College. Mr. Callahan is well known for his work in American and African American literature. His numerous publications include *In the African-American Grain: The Pursuit of Voice in 20th Century Black Fiction* and essays on African American writers and his friends Michael S. Harper, Alice Walker and Ellison. His Modern Library edition of *The Collected Essays of Ralph Ellison* was published by Random House in 1995. *Flying Home and Other Stories,* which collected for the first time Ellison's short fiction written between 1937 and 1954, was published in 1996. ◆

Ralph Ellison

Ms. French is a public affairs specialist in the Public Affairs Office.

Frontiers
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In the last session of the conference, Dr. Billington chaired a session on international relations and foreign policy with former Rep. Lee Hamilton and Sens. Richard G. Lugar (R-Ind.) and Paul S. Sarbanes (D-Md.). Sen. Lugar saw three major challenges on the horizon for American foreign policy. Ironically, the end of the Cold War has made the world a more dangerous place.

"It is difficult to believe that we won't have a nuclear weapon exploded in the coming decade," he said. The second major challenge is to feed the rapidly expanding population of the world. Three times as much food on the same acreage will be needed to meet the demands of the next 50 years. Finally, Sen. Lugar advocated a "Green Revolution" in energy, urging the government to invest in the development of biotechnologies that can convert agricultural residues into cheap fuel such as ethanol.

Lee Hamilton, who now heads the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, focused on the way in which the United States has become a key participant throughout the world. "We live at a time where every country believes we are the key player in every spot on the globe," he said.

Without "active and generous" leadership from the United States, the global system does not hold together, he asserted. Such leadership in foreign affairs must come from the president, with "intervention" the most important and most difficult decision a chief executive has to make. Where American interests are important, but not vital, Mr. Hamilton advocated collective security with other nations, while not forgetting that the president must persuade the American people to accept such responsibilities before moving forward.

Sen. Sarbanes extended Mr. Hamilton's argument, warning against the twin dangers of isolationism and unilateralism. Global connections have given an international dimension even to domestic issues. The greatest threats to U.S. security are not from foreign invasion or the loss of basic freedoms, Sen. Sarbanes argued, but "transnational" problems such as economic stagnation, environmental degradation, the spread of diseases, the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, terrorism, drugs and the abuse of human rights.

Asserting Americans "unilaterally" to solve these problems is risky and misguided, he said, and threatens to cause a return to a form of Cold War logic in which "the enemy of my enemy is my friend." The United States does not appropriate enough money for international affairs, the budget for which is down 50 percent in real terms since 1985, the senator said. Instead of capitalizing on trends toward greater democracy and open markets throughout the world, America is reducing its diplomatic presence and cutting programs.

"We have failed to appropriate sufficient resources for international diplomacy since the fall of the Berlin Wall," the senator said.

Sen. Sarbanes said the United States must work through organizations such as the United Nations to find collaborative solutions to problems, so that others feel they are participants and not just imposed upon by American judgment. He ended his remarks with a quote from Harry Truman warning against the disillusionment and skepticism that could lead to a loss of faith in the effectiveness of international cooperation. ◆

Mr. D'Ooge is media director in the Public Affairs Office.

Focus on Foreign Law

AALL Conference Workshop Held at Library

BY ANGELA BELLIN

Fifty-four law library professionals from across the United States came to the Library of Congress July 16 to strengthen their foreign law research skills.

They attended a workshop, "Meet the Legal Specialists: Expert Advice on Research and Acquisitions of Foreign Law in the Vernacular (Advanced)." The workshop, held in the National Digital Library Learning Center, was part of the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) 92nd annual conference.

The workshop began with a welcome by Law Librarian Rubens Medina, who stated that the goal of the workshop was to strengthen the working relationships between law libraries and the Law Library of Congress and that the Library of Congress staff members were "very delighted" to share their expertise with AALL members, many of whom had already attended a session that morning on how to obtain detailed, pertinent and timely foreign law information.

Foreign and International Law Librarian Amber Lee Smith of the Los Angeles County Law Library moderated the morning session. Ms. Smith explained that in winter 1993 the AALL joined with the Library of Congress for a "nuts and bolts" workshop geared toward law library professionals without previous international-law research experience. This year's workshop was designed to "instruct and inform, using sources and techniques for research and acquisition in the native language," said Ms. Smith.

The first half of the workshop consisted of presentations by Law Library staff. Western Law Division Chief Kersi Shroff spoke briefly on the history and current structure of law in Australia. He described Australia as a constitutional monarchy with Queen Elizabeth II as head of state. There is an ongoing debate on whether Australia should become a republic and remove this provision from its constitution. It is thought that this may occur in time for the constitution's centennial celebration in January 2001. He noted that the United States constitution served as a model for Australia's charter. Mr. Shroff presented an on-line tour of several useful Web sites on Australian law and stated that Australian law has taken the lead in making its legal information freely available via the Internet.

N. Alicia Byers

The workshop took place in the Library's National Digital Library Learning Center. Among the participants were (front row, from left): Stephen Wiles and Silke Sahl of the Harvard Law School Library, comparing notes with Jean Davis of the Brooklyn Law School Library.

Wendy Zeldin, senior legal research analyst, outlined the current political and court structure of China. She observed that there have been many changes in the past 20 years, including an "explosion in law-related publications." Ms. Zeldin demonstrated how to access top Chinese-law Web sites, offering both bilingual and vernacular examples.

Senior Legal Specialist Nicole Atwill noted similarities between the French and U.S. political structure and history, such as the 1789 revolution and an emphasis on the principle of separation of powers. Ms. Atwill also explained the general features of the French legal system, including the hierarchy of laws and the history of the codification of laws.

Senior Legal Specialist George Sfeir noted that there are currently no adequate Web sites for researchers of Islamic law. Further complicating legal research in Arab law is the use of both traditional and Western-based laws. "Reform of the law is an ongoing process everywhere; no less so in the Arab states whose legal modernization is neither complete nor uniform. Whatever the share of Islamic law today in the Arab legal systems (roughly speaking 25 to 30 percent), this share is bound to diminish as a distinct factor with new statutory enactments continuously generated by changing social and economic conditions and global developments" he said.

After welcoming AALL guests in Hebrew, Senior Legal Specialist Ruth Levush detailed major features of Israel's legal system and explained traditional legal sources as well as new electronic sources. Ms. Levush said, "The Israeli legal system belongs to the Western legal culture, which is based on the rule of law and takes a secular, liberal and rational approach that puts the individual at center."

Senior Legal Specialist Peter Roudik concluded the morning session with his presentation on Russian law. Even though current Russian law is a relatively new field, Mr. Roudik navigated

N. Alicia Byers

Members of the faculty, all staff members of the Law Library (from left): Wendy Zeldin, senior legal research analyst, with senior legal specialists Peter Roudik and Ruth Levush.

several pertinent Web sites.

After a question-and-answer session moderated by Ms. Smith, the workshop adjourned to the Montpelier Dining Room for lunch, where several presenters responded to the question, "Can these on-line references be used in court?" The consensus of the presenters was that, in general, on-line references cannot be used in U.S. courts. Similar sentiments were also expressed about using English translations in court. Ms. Zeldin cautioned she would be "leery," and Mr. Sfeir echoed, "I think we should be very careful," in using such references in court. Mr. Roudik observed that the government translations were usually the most reliable. To the audience's amusement, Mr. Shroff pointed out there were no English translations of Australian law.

The afternoon session began with a demonstration of the Global Legal Information Network (GLIN) by Program Director Janice Hyde. GLIN is a cooperative, nonprofit federation of government agencies that contribute national legal information to the GLIN database maintained by the Law Library of Congress. The automated database contains laws of many foreign countries accessible through an English-language thesaurus.

After Ms. Hyde's on-line demonstration, meeting attendees dispersed to try some of their own GLIN searches using National Digital Library classroom computers.

The latter portion of the workshop focused on helpful Library background information, detailing areas within the Law Library.

Mark Strattner, legal collection development specialist, spoke on "Acquiring Books from Foreign Jurisdictions: Purchase, Exchange, Gift and Library Overseas Offices." He focused on the challenges of acquiring comparatively expensive books for a nonprofit agency.

European and Latin American Acquisitions Division Chief Donald P. Panzera explained the complex and multifaceted geographic reorganization of the Library of Congress Acquisitions Office, implemented on Oct. 12, 1997. The restructuring was achieved concomitantly with an increase in the exchange program and an increase in acquisitions from government sources.

Judy C. McDermott, chief of the African/Asian Acquisitions and Overseas Operations Division, outlined the history and structure of the Library's overseas operations. The only legislative agency to have foreign service, the Library of Congress employs more than 200 foreign service nationals who assist the Library with acquisitions in cities around the world.

Director of Law Library Services Margaret Whitlock concluded the event by thanking all staff and AALL participants.

Founded in 1906, the AALL has nearly 5,000 members, including law firms, law schools, corporate legal departments, courts, and local, state and federal government agencies. The association strives to "promote and enhance the value of law libraries to the public, the legal community and the world, to foster the profession of law librarianship and to provide leadership in the field of legal information and information policy." Above all, the AALL asserts that "the availability of legal information to all people is a necessary requirement for a just and democratic society." ◆

Ms. Bellin is an intern in the Public Affairs Office.

This year's American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) Annual Meeting and Conference began with the Law Library's preconference workshop on foreign law *(see main story)*.

On July 18 the Bureau of National Affairs Inc. (BNA) sponsored the Opening Reception in the Great Hall of the Thomas Jefferson Building. Representing Dr. Billington was Chief of Staff Jo Ann Jenkins, with Law Librarian Rubens Medina, AALL President James S. Heller and BNA President Paul Wojcik.

On July 20 and 21 the Law Library sponsored a series of programs and tours, specially designed for AALL members, to announce new services and products as well as to illustrate the Law Library's traditional dual roles as a congressional and a national law library. Demonstrations of the Web-based Global Legal Information Network (GLIN) and "A Century of Lawmaking for a New Nation: U.S. Congressional Documents and Debates 1774-1873," which won the AALL 1999 Award for Nonprint Publication, were given. "A Century of Lawmaking is available from the Library's American Memory collections at **www.loc.gov**.

Southern Mosaic

The John and Ruby Lomax 1939 Southern States Recording Trip

By RACHEL I. HOWARD

When John and Ruby Lomax left their vacation home on San José Island at Port Aransas, Texas, on March 31, 1939, they already had some idea of what they would encounter on their three-month, 6,502-mile journey through the southern United States collecting folk songs.

Many of the people and places they planned to visit were already familiar to them, and while they were always on the alert for previously unrecorded musical genres, songs and tunes, one of the purposes of this trip was to record some of their favorite folk songs and folk singers from past expeditions on state-of-the-art equipment. The Library of Congress provided the Lomaxes with the latest in recording technology: a portable Presto disc-cutting machine, with extra batteries and a supply of blank 12-inch acetate discs and sapphire needles that could be replenished upon request. Hauling this heavy equipment to and from the trunk of their Plymouth as they stopped to make recordings in schools, churches, homes, hotels, prisons and even along the roadside in locales throughout the rural South, they could hardly have suspected that, in 60 years' time, the cultural heritage they were collecting for deposit in the Archive of American Folk Song at the Library of Congress would be played back, with the click of a mouse button, through computer speakers in homes, schools and offices around the world, at **www.loc.gov**.

John Avery Lomax, born Sept. 23, 1867, in Goodman, Miss., had been collecting songs since his childhood in Bosque County, Texas, jotting down lyrics to cowboy songs as he listened. At the University of Texas at Austin, however, where he studied English literature, one disdainful professor temporarily squelched his enthusiasm for the vernacular lyricism of the Texas frontier. By 1906, he was a graduate student at Harvard University, and professors Barrett Wendell and George Lyman Kittredge actively encouraged Lomax to document his native folklife. The subsequent documentation effort resulted in *Cowboy Songs and Other Frontier Ballads* (New York: Sturgis & Walton Co., 1910), published to critical and popular acclaim. Indeed, as the Lomaxes wrote in their field notes for the 1939 expedition, on at least one occasion John's book preceded him into the home of a performer. Elmo Newcomer, a fiddler and dance caller recorded in Bandera County, Texas, on May 3, 1939, remarked upon meeting John,

> "Shake, boy. I've heared about you all my life ... We scraped our savings together an' sent 'em to you an' sure 'nough here come the book. ... We read it and sung from it so much and loaned it out so much that it's might nigh tore up."

Ruby T. Lomax

Uncle Rich Brown (right) and John Lomax at the home of Julia Killingsworth near Sumterville, Ala., Oct. 1940

There was the book of cowboy songs, no two pages hanging together, but apparently all there between the covers, one of the 1910 edition *(1939 Southern Recording Trip Fieldnotes,* Section 9: Pipe Creek, Bandera and Medina, Texas; May 3-7, p. 120).

John Lomax married Bess Brown in 1904, and they had four children: Shirley (1905), John Jr. (1907), Alan (1915) and Bess (1921). Lomax taught English at Texas A&M University, researched and collected cowboy songs and, with Professor Leonidas

Portraits of African Americans taken during Lomax's folk song recording expeditions in Louisiana and Texas between 1934 and 1950

Payne of the University of Texas at Austin, co-founded the Texas Folklore Society, a branch of the American Folklore Society. The Texas Folklore Society's founding members shared with Lomax a sense that their state's rich folklore needed to be documented and preserved for the analysis of later scholars. Nascent technology such as the radio and the gramophone, it was feared, would end the age-old tradition of transmitting music and lore directly from one person to the next. With professional musicians' works being piped into homes across the country, the purity of traditional music, its particularities of region, religion and ethnicity, could be lost forever. Ultimately, Lomax, often accompanied by his son Alan or by his second wife, Ruby, collected more than 10,000 recordings for the Archive of American Folk Song at the Library of Congress. Ironically, he relied on the latest technological advances to document the very oral tradition he feared technology would destroy.

Circumstances took John Lomax away from his beloved Texas in 1917, when he accepted a job as a banker in Chicago. When Bess Brown Lomax died in 1931, a full-scale return to folklore studies, as a lecturer and folk song researcher, gradually revived the despondent John Lomax. The Macmillan publishing company accepted his proposal for an all-inclusive anthology of American ballads and folk songs, and in the summer of 1932 he traveled to Washington to do research in the Archive of American Folk Song at the Library of Congress.

By the time of Lomax's visit, the archive already contained a collection of commercial phonograph recordings and wax cylinder field recordings of folk songs, acquired under the leadership of Robert Winslow Gordon, head of the archive, and Carl Engel, chief of the Music Division. Gordon had also developed and experimented in the field with a portable disc recorder.

Lomax made an arrangement with the Library whereby it would provide recording equipment (including recording blanks), in exchange for which he would travel the country recording songs to be added to the archive. Thus began a 10-year relationship with the Library that would involve not only John but the entire Lomax family.

Thanks to a grant from the American Council of Learned Societies, Lomax was able to set out in June 1933 on his first recording expedition under the Library's auspices, with Alan (then 18 years old) in tow. John and Alan toured Southern prison farms recording work songs, reels, ballads and blues from prisoners, whom they believed represented an isolated musical culture "untouched" by the modern world. One of their great discoveries occurred that July, when they recorded a 12-string guitar player by the name of Huddie Ledbetter, better known as "Lead Belly," at the Louisiana State Penitentiary at Angola.

More Collections Now Available from American Memory

The Library's Geography and Map Division is the source for the "Mapping the National Parks" collection, which offers 200 maps of the Acadia, Great Smoky Mountain, Grand Canyon and Yellowstone national parks, dating from the 17th century to the present. There are special presentations for each of these four parks. The presentation for Acadia offers nautical charts of the first national park on a coast. The Grand Canyon presentation offers not only maps but also links to other American Memory collections that provide spectacular views of the canyon. The site was made possible by a donation from the Rockefeller Foundation.

"American Environmental Photographs, 1891-1936," another new on-line offering, consists of approximately 4,500 photographs from the University of Chicago's collections documenting natural environments, ecologies and plant communities in the United States. Produced by a group of American botanists who were instrumental in the development of modern ecological studies, these photographs provide an overview of important representative natural landscapes across the nation. They demonstrate the character of a wide range of American topography: forestation, aridity, shifting coastal dune complexes and watercourses. Comparison of early photographs with later views highlights changes resulting from natural alterations of the landscape, disturbances from industry and development and effective natural resource usage.

The University of Chicago Library was a winner in the first round of the Library of Congress/Ameritech National Digital Library Competition. The competition was made possible by a $2 million donation to the Library from Ameritech.

The photographs were taken by Henry Chandler Cowles (1869-1939), George Damon Fuller (1869-1961) and other Chicago ecologists on field trips across North America.

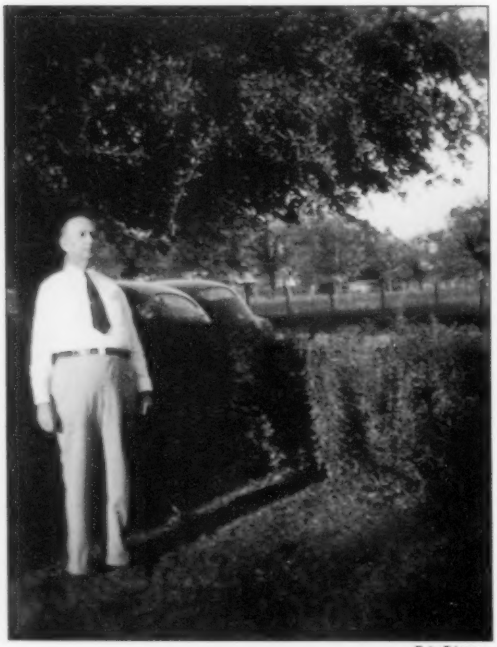
Among the natural features these images document are dunes, bogs, forests and deserts; individual plants from the Ponderosa pine and birch to grasses and mosses; landscape features such as the Grand Canyon, Lake Superior and the Sierra Nevada; and the consequences of natural and human changes to the environment ranging from erosion and floods to irrigation and lumbering. The collection also includes photographs of University of Chicago botanists as they conducted field research, led students on summer field classes and traveled across the continent on tours, including the International Phytogeographic Excursion of 1913.

American Memory is a project of the National Digital Library Program of the Library of Congress. Its goal is to make freely available millions of American historical items by 2000, the Bicentennial of the Library of Congress. The Library, in collaboration with other major repositories, is digitizing original American historical materials as its Bicentennial Gift to the Nation.

More than 2 million items are currently available in 60 collections such as early baseball cards; highlights of the career of baseball legend Jackie Robinson; the papers of Presidents Washington, Jefferson and Lincoln; Civil War photographs; and documents relating to the civil rights movement and women's suffrage. The multimedia American Memory collections also include recordings of music and American leaders, films, animation and panoramic photographs and maps. ◆

Ruby T. Lomax

Frank Goodwyn, Kingville, Texas, September 1940; H.R. Weaver singing "Ox-Driving Song" at his home in Merryville, La., October 1940



Ruby T. Lomax

Throughout that summer, as John Lomax traveled across the South, pursuing his lifelong interests, he courted Ruby Terrill by mail. They were married on July 21, 1934, in Commerce, Texas.

Ruby Terrill, called "Miss Terrill" by John Lomax even after their wedding, first met her future husband in 1921. A native Texan, she was dean of women and instructor of classical languages at East Texas State Teachers College in Commerce, Texas, when John Lomax lectured there on his cowboy song research. After she gave him and his young son, Alan, a tour of Commerce, he enlisted her as a babysitter. More than a decade later, the widowed John Lomax reintroduced himself to Miss Terrill, now a classical languages M.A. from Columbia University; cofounder of the pioneering woman educator's professional society, the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International; dean of women at the University of Texas at Austin; and Alan Lomax's Latin instructor.

His newlywed status did not prevent John Lomax from continuing to make disc recordings of musicians throughout the South. In 1934 he was named honorary consultant and curator of the Archive of American Folk Song, and he secured grants from the Carnegie Corporation and the Rockefeller Foundation, among others, for continued field recordings. As Lomax continued his work, his field expeditions reflected his broadening scope of interest, to the benefit of documentary history. For example, in 1934 he and Alan recorded Spanish ballads and *vaquero* songs on the Rio Grande border and spent weeks among French-speaking Acadians in southern Louisiana. In 1936 he was assigned to serve as an adviser on folklore, collecting for both the Historical Records Survey and the Federal Writers' Project, two Works Progress Administration agencies. As the Federal Writers' Project's first folklore editor, Lomax directed the gathering of ex-slave narratives and devised a questionnaire for FWP field workers to use.

Meanwhile, Ruby Terrill Lomax continued working at the university, overseeing the home and family and taking care of a number of duties for her husband's research. In 1937 she decided to exchange the academic pursuits and frenetic schedule of her life in Austin for the intellectual pursuits and equally frenetic pace of life on the road with a ballad hunter. The Lomaxes made a house outside Dallas (called the "House in the Woods") their permanent residence, then drove away in Ruby's Plymouth on a scouting tour of the Southern states. The classics scholar evidently enjoyed the expedition, and threw herself wholeheartedly into it.

Ruby Terrill Lomax's role in the success of the 1939 Southern States Recording Trip cannot be overemphasized. She composed nearly all written documentation relating to the collection. She cataloged the contents of each disc on the record's dust jacket as the recording was taking place. According to Frank Goodwyn, a ranch hand who sang cowboy songs for the Lomaxes in April 1939, Miss Terrill operated the Presto machine while John instructed and encouraged the performers *(interview with Frank and Elizabeth Goodwyn,* April 29, 1999, AFC 1999/006).

After the trip, at the Library of Congress she transcribed song lyrics and composed and typed much of the 307 pages of field notes. In addition, Ruby's voice can be heard on a number of the recordings, carefully announcing the performer's name and the date and location of the recording. While her husband possessed the contacts, the title of honorary consultant and curator of the Archive of American Folk Song and the expert knowledge of the material he was seeking and collecting, Ruby Lomax possessed the organizational and archival skills of a longtime administrator and instructor, the wide-

eyed wonder of a lifelong learner uncovering a whole new world of studies and the social skills of a parliamentarian who was a key player on many teams.

In 1940, when the couple traversed the same path through the South, she took on the additional role of photographer. Many photographs from the 1940 recording expedition illustrate the American Memory on-line presentation featuring the 1939 recordings.

John and Ruby Lomax began their 1939 Southern states recording expedition in Texas, stopping in 12 counties in 7½ weeks (more than half of the trip) to capture some 350 blues songs, *corridos*, fiddle tunes, lullabies, play-party songs and railroad, riverboat and prison work songs in settings ranging from a storage garage in Houston to schoolyards in Brownsville and Wiergate to the Ramsey State Farm in Otey, where prisoners were "under guard, behind three sets of locks" *(1939 Southern Recording Trip Fieldnotes,* Section 5: Ramsey State Farm, Otey, Texas; April 23, p. 48).

Mechanical difficulties delayed and damaged some recordings, as the Lomaxes' correspondence with the Music Division documents. For example, their attempts to record the religious drama *Morir en la cruz con Cristo, o Dimas, el buen ladrón* on Easter Sunday in Houston were foiled by failing batteries; they visited the López family at their home in Sugar Land two weeks later to capture the entire drama.

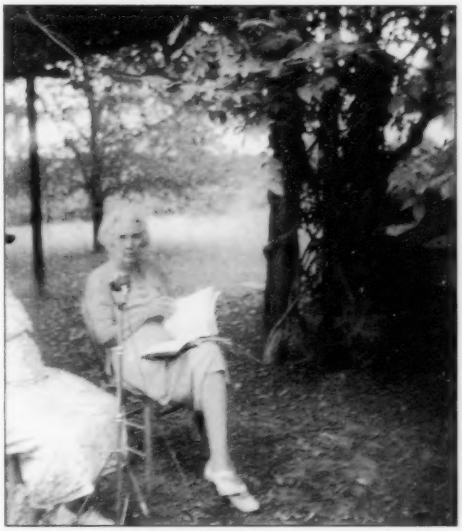
Merryville, La., their first stop outside of Texas, had been suggested by John's son Alan (employed as assistant in charge of the Archive of American Folk Song since 1937) and his wife, Elizabeth. "Elizabeth's uncle lives in a little town in the no-man's-land on the Texas edge of Louisiana. Elizabeth says that he has a natural amateur's interest in folk songs and knows all the fiddlers and singers of that section, and he could probably lead you to very good material" (*Letter from Alan Lomax to John A. Lomax;* Port Aransas, Texas, Jan. 21, 1939). Herman R. "H.R." Weaver did prove a valuable contact, offering his home as a recording studio, guiding the Lomaxes to the blind gospel pianist J.R. Gipson and the New Zion Baptist Church congregation and singing a few traditional songs he had learned from his father.

Ruby T. Lomax

African American convicts working with shovels, possibly singing "Rock Island Line" at Cummins State Farm, Gould, Ark., 1934; Ruby Pickens Tartt at her home in Livingston, Ala., October 1940

The Arkansas and Mississippi state prisons, Cummins and Parchman, provided a wealth of material, although evidently less than they had for Lomax in the past. Ruby Terrill Lomax described these prison farm recording sessions in a letter written to her family:

> We consider that we had rather a lucky excape [sic] from the Cummins State Farm in Arkansas; the night after we left a storm blew one of the stockades down, such as the ones in which we set up our machine to work. ... Twelve convicts escaped in the confusion and two, at latest account that we saw in the papers, were killed in trying to escape. We made some pretty good records, but even in the past two years the death rate of old songs has risen. ... At Parchman we found the superintendent harassed by personal and political problems, so that we did not tarry very long after working with two camps. Fortunately for us, rain kept the boys out of the fields so that we were able to do our work by day instead of at night *(1939 Southern Recording Trip Fieldnotes,* Section 14: Cummins State Farm, near Vainer, Ark.; May 20-21, p. 205).



Ruby T. Lomax

Alabama provided a more hospitable environment for the traveling couple, now two months into their expedition. John and Ruby Lomax spent five days in Summer County, Ala., assisted, guided and introduced to performers by their friend Ruby Pickens Tartt, local folklorist and chairman of the WPA Federal Writers' Project of Summer County. Tartt facilitated the recording of 115 children's songs, hollers, play-party songs, religious oratory and spirituals, many of which were recorded on the porch and in the

Ruby T. Lomax

Isabella Salazar at Casa Ricardo Hotel, Kingsville, Texas, September 1940

yard of her home at Baldwin Hill in Livingston. The Lomaxes were glad that the Presto machine was in good working order, as they were able to better document the repertoire of the cousins Vera Hall and Dock Reed, whose mellifluous singing voices have graced numerous Library of Congress acetate discs prior to and after 1939.

In Florida, the Lomaxes revisited Mrs. G.A. Griffin, who sang old ballads and demonstrated her unique manner of calling chickens. They also recorded at the State Farm at Raiford. Ruby Lomax was barred by the superintendent from making recordings with John in the men's dormitory but captured some fine examples of blues songs and singing game songs from the women prisoners.

A polio epidemic in South Carolina prevented the Lomaxes from recording large groups of schoolchildren in that state, as planned, but they nevertheless collected 49 songs in three counties. At the home of another WPA Writers' Project contact, Genevieve W. Chandler, along the Atlantic coast at Murrells Inlet, they collected Anglo-American ballads from Minnie Floyd and African American singing game songs and spirituals from schoolteacher Annie Holmes and several of her students. In Clemson, S.C., host Ben Robertson gathered two groups at his home to sing children's songs and religious songs and escorted the Lomaxes to the Little Hope School House to record the church congregation gathered there. While driving through Anderson County, John and Ruby were appalled to see a chain gang of approximately 80 prisoners connected by an ankle chain; they recorded the group singing spirituals and work songs and composed a letter to the governor to protest this inhumane practice.

At the urging of their Clemson host, Ben Robertson Jr., John and Ruby Lomax spent an afternoon at the Georgia-Carolina Singing Festival in Toccoa Falls, Ga. The festival setup was a far cry from the intimate settings in which they were accustomed to making their recordings, and the distinction between the festival performances and the types of songs they were seeking plagues the classification of "folk" music to this day:

> After lunch we drove to Toccoa Falls, Georgia where a huge crowd had gathered from three states, about twenty thousand. ... Loud speakers made the singing audible over several acres. It was a great social gathering, a veritable reunion. It was impossible to choose wisely. After listening for a long time on the outside, Mr. Lomax chose two quartets, one of women, one of men, for recordings. They were conducted to a building where the machine was set up. The records were made in the midst of much noise and confusion. The songs are not folk songs, but the records illustrate a manner-kind of religious song and a manner of singing them that are currently popular in some small town and rural districts *(1939 Southern Recording Trip Fieldnotes,* Section 21: Clemson, S.C., and vicinity; June 9-12, p. 297).

John and Ruby Lomax drove through North Carolina on June 13, arriving in Galax, Va., in the late afternoon. Dr. W.P. "Doc" Davis, director of the Bog Trotters Band, was ill, so the Lomaxes' plans to record the band were stymied, but they nonetheless enjoyed the beautiful trip through the mountains and the company of the band members. They arrived at the Library of Congress on June 14, and there deposited the 142 discs proclaimed by Alan Lomax to be "musically and acoustically ... one of the best groups of records accessioned in the Archive" *(1939 Annual Report: Excerpt from the Archive of American Folk-Song Annual Report, 1928-1939,* p. 70).

John Lomax summarized the trip as follows:

> ... in many instances we re-recorded folk songs sung in a different manner, or slightly different musically from already known material. In visiting the homes, schools and churches of the Southern folk and recording their singing in their own locale, we carried out the theory of the Folk Song Archive of the Library of Congress, namely, that folk singers render their music more naturally in the easy sociability of their own people *(1939 Southern Recording Trip Report,* p. 1).

The on-line presentation of *Southern Mosaic: The John and Ruby Lomax 1939 Southern States Recording Trip* fulfills the mission of the American Folklife Center of the Library of Congress, "to preserve and present American folklife" (Public Law 94-201, 1976). By making these recordings available to a wider audience of students, researchers, musicians, folklorists and more, the musical heritage John Lomax and his family devoted themselves to documenting is being passed on to new generations.

The collection's 686 sound recordings, as well as the accompanying field notes, dust jackets, correspondence and song texts, can be accessed from the American Memory Collections of the National Digital Library Program. Photographs taken during other Southern states recording trips illustrate the on-line presentation, which is made possible by a donation from the Texaco Foundation. ◆

Ms. Howard is a digital conversion specialist in the American Folklife Center. Christa Maher, also a digital conversion specialist for the AFC's National Digital Library Team, contributed to this essay.

For further information on John and Ruby Lomax and the Archive of American Folk Song, see:

Bartis, Peter T. "A History of the Archive of Folk Song at the Library of Congress: The First Fifty Years." Ph.D. diss., University of Pennsylvania, 1982.

Lomax, John A. Adventures of a Ballad Hunter. New York: Macmillan Co., 1947.

Porterfield, Nolan. Last Cavalier: The Life and Times of John A. Lomax, 1867-1948. Urbana, Illinois: University of Illinois Press, 1996.

Conservation Corner

George Washington Diaries Reclaimed

By MARK ROOSA and TOM ALBRO

The Library's state-of-the-art conservation lab has nearly completed preservation of an invaluable collection of 36 pocket-size diaries that belonged to George Washington.

The diaries cover the years 1748-1799 and contain a fascinating handwritten record of Washington's activities, including observations and memoranda on a variety of subjects, from the weather and agriculture to the Revolutionary War. The diaries are from the Manuscript Division's collections of the papers of 23 U.S. presidents.

Conservation History

During the 1930s, as part of the 200th anniversary of George Washington's birth, the diaries were unbound from their original format and rebound in a larger presentation-style format, which included insetting the manuscript leaves into larger support sheets and covering both sides of each leaf with a transparent silk for the purpose of physical protection. The silking process, which at that time was widely practiced in libraries and archives throughout the world, was thought to provide support for fragile items. Experts know today that silking, which was discontinued by the Library in the 1950s, has a long-term deleterious effect on materials because it is chemically unstable over time. Thus, steps have been taken in the Library in recent years to remove silk from select rare and valuable items.

In the 1930s, the diaries were bound in a presentation style format with stiff support pages.

Recent History

Early in the 1980s during surveys of the condition of the Presidential Papers Collection, Conservation Division staff discovered the appearance of "foxing," or small spots on paper, on the support sheets of the diaries as well as on the diary leaves. Foxing is thought to be due to the metal pressing boards that are used in the silking process. During the survey it was also noted that the inflexibility of the support pages was causing stress to the original diary leaves. A treatment strategy was developed to address these two problems.

Beginning in the 1980s, conservationists returned the diaries to their original formats.

The Cure

Curators in the Manuscript Division met with Conservation Division specialists to see what might be done to reclaim these precious volumes. A plan was devised that first involved careful removal of the diary pages from each of the volumes. Next, the silking was removed from individual pages by aqueous immersion until the adhesive holding the silk in place dissolved and the silk fell away from the paper. Occasionally, enzyme baths were used to help remove the adhesive.

Weakened areas and small tears in the diary leaves were mended using Japanese paper, a strong, lightweight substance made from the inner bark of the *kozo*, an indigenous Japanese plant known for its particularly long fibers. The paper was adhered with wheat starch paste, which is routinely used in conservation because of its excellent working properties and because it is reversible should the need arise. Some areas of loss were repaired by means of "leaf-casting," a method in which a thin layer of new paper is deposited over the missing areas to impart strength.

Once the pages were mended they were sewn together by hand. The sewn texts were then bound and covered using the original boards (if they were in good condition), or with new boards covered with handmade paste paper decorated in a style typical of the day. While the cover decoration does not replicate the original, it is meant to be of the period in which the originals were created.

In addition to neutralizing the damaging effects of the former binding, the treatment also returned the diaries to their original "almanac" format, an oblong, horizontal or vertical shape that was designed for journal inscription. Finally, each almanac is receiving a custom-fitted protective enclosure, which assures protection from environmental elements and handling.

The series of treatments emphasizes sound materials, structural fitness and a return to the original format. It removes pending danger to the diaries, allows them to be safely used by researchers and improves and makes more historically accurate their appearance. So far, 31 of the 36 volumes have been treated. The project is scheduled to be completed in 2000. ◆

Mr. Roosa is chief of the Conservation Division. Mr. Albro is head of the division's Book and Paper Section.

The Library's Carolina Saez and John Cole (front row, third and fourth from left) join other participants on April 23 at the United Nations for the national celebration of World Book and Copyright Day. Nina Sibal, UNESCO representative to the United Nations, is second from the right.

News from the Center for the Book

International Update

World Book and Copyright Day Celebrated. At the United Nations on April 23, Center for the Book Director John Y. Cole and Carolina Saez, attorney adviser in the Copyright Office, presented brief remarks during the U.S. national celebration of World Book and Copyright Day. The event was co-sponsored with the U.N. Society of Writers. Representatives from the American Booksellers Association, the Association of American Publishers, the International Reading Association, New York Is Book Country and other book and reading promotion organizations also participated.

The commemoration, which takes place on the birthday of both Shakespeare and Cervantes, had its origins in Catalonia, where on April 23 books (and flowers) traditionally have been presented as gifts. In proclaiming April 23 as World Book and Copyright Day, UNESCO has given the day a broader purpose: "to promote reading, publishing and the protection of intellectual property through copyright." In his remarks, Mr. Cole noted that although thus far World Book and Copyright Day was not widely celebrated in the United States, "it is a popular focal point for reading promotion activities in many countries." In particular, he cited Spain, the Netherlands, Germany and South Africa, where the South African Centre for the Book used the Library's Center for the Book "Building a Nation of Readers" theme for its commemoration.

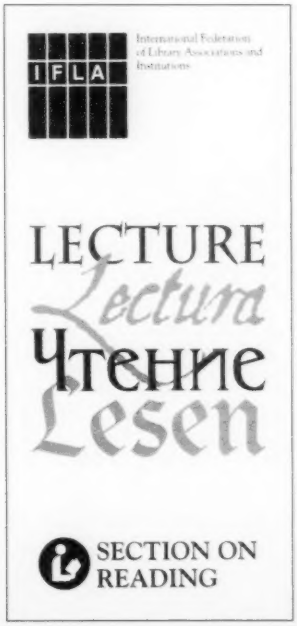
■ **International Literacy Day to Be Marked on Sept. 8.** At the World Bank on Sept. 8, the Center for the Book, the International Reading Association and the World Bank will host the U.S. celebration of International Literacy Day.

The day's activities will include an information exchange featuring exhibit booths organized by prominent international literacy and reading promotion organizations, the announcement of a new World Bank education program and announcement of the 1999 winners of the International Literacy Awards. For further information, contact the Center for the Book, telephone (202) 707-5221, e-mail cfbook@loc.gov.

■ **Connecticut Launches "World of Words."** Rep. John Larson (D-Conn.) and M. Jodi Rell, the state's lieutenant governor, launched the Connecticut Center for the Book's "World of Words" program in Hartford on April 9.

"World of Words" is a new National Library Week program that celebrates Connecticut's "literary and cultural abundance" by matching public libraries and public library programming throughout the state with the state's multiethnic traditions. The Hartford Public Library, for example, featured exhibits, readings, book signings and storytelling from the Caribbean. Other participating libraries and the cultural traditions featured at each were the New Britain Public Library (Great Britain); the Derby Public Library (India); Waterbury's Silas Bronson Library (Ireland); Darien Public Library (Japan); Wallingford Public Library (Mexico); Granby Public Library (The Netherlands); and Stamford's Ferguson Library (Poland). During the April 9 opening event, held in the Connecticut state capitol, the consul generals from Haiti, India, Japan and Great Britain, plus representatives from other featured countries, presented books about their countries for the collections of their "paired" libraries.

■ **IFLA Section on Reading to Meet in Bangkok.** The Section on Reading of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA), chaired by Center for the Book Director John Y. Cole, will sponsor a program on "Book and Reading Promotion in Southeast Asia" on Aug. 24 during IFLA's annual conference in Bangkok, Thailand. The section's goals statement supports reading development campaigns, promoting research about reading, literacy, readers and library use; encouraging a better understanding of reading patterns and literacy problems, and raising awareness of the importance of books and reading for young people. The section recently published its first information brochure. Copies of the brochure and the August 1999 issue of the Section on Reading *Newsletter* are available from the Center for the Book, telephone (202) 707-5221, e-mail: cfbook@loc.gov.



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National Book Centre (Greece)
e-mail: ekevi@culture.gr
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e-mail: contact@literacytrust.org.uk
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e-mail: book.trust.scotland@dial.pipex.com
http://webpost.net/bts/

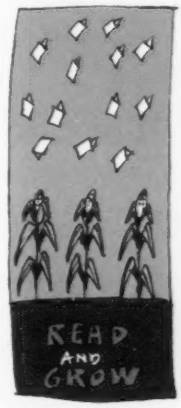
Scottish Centre for the Book (Napier University)
www.pmpc.napier.ac.uk/scob/scob.html

Society for Book Research in Austria
e-mail: buchforschung@bigfoot.com

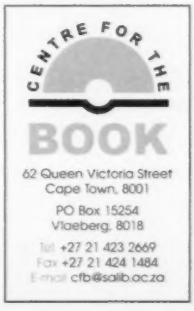
Stichting Lezen (The Netherlands)
e-mail: info@lezen.nl
www.lezen.nl/fusion/html/body_english_introduction.html

Toronto Centre for the Book (University of Toronto)
www.fis.utoronto.ca/research/programs/tcb/index.htm

■ **International Organizations Added to Web Site.** The Center for the Book has added more than a dozen international organizations that promote books and reading to its Web site (**www.loc.gov/loc/cfbook**). "Our goal is to become a comprehensive resource and clearinghouse for information about organizations interested in all aspects of books and reading," said Mr. Cole. "The several international organizations and book centers established in the past few years to encourage the study of the history of books are included, along with their U.S. counterparts. In all, more than 200 organizations in the U.S. and abroad are listed in the 'Related Programs and Organizations' section of the site." Entries include name, institutional affiliation, mailing address, telephone number and, when available, fax number and e-mail and Web site addresses. A selective list of organizations appears in the box at left. ◆



BUILDING A NATION OF READERS



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